

VISA OPTIONS FOR FOREIGN SCHOLARS

TYPE OF VISA	* TIME TO PROCESS	POSSIBLE INCOME FROM U.S. SOURCES	PROBABLE TAX STATUS	ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA	MAXIMUM LENGTH OF STAY IN U.S.	ADVANTAGES	DISADVANTAGES	SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION NEEDED	FORM REQUIRED FOR VISA	COST TO JLAB
B-1/WB VISITOR FOR BUSINESS	2 - 4 Months for B-1 No visa required for WB	Reimbursement for travel and subsistence (per diem) No salary; Honorarium if AD approved; visitors (\$400/per day – maximum 9 days only); no reimbursement for visa fees	Non-resident alien	Proof of academic or business purpose of U.S. visit	6 months at entry; renewable in 6 month increments; must show business need for extension 90 days for WB	Relatively easy visa to obtain No visa required for WB	Honorarium limited to 9 days No extensions for WB	Invitation letter with dates and purpose of visit; proof of adequate funding for U.S. visit	Jefferson Lab can provide letter if stipend/ travel to be paid	None
B-2 VISITOR FOR PLEASURE	2 - 4 Months	None	Non-resident alien	Evidence of financial support and of tourist plans; may need affidavit of support	6 months at entry; renewable in 6 month increment 90 days for WB	Relatively easy visa to obtain depending on political and economic conditions of home country	No U.S. income permitted	Proof of adequate funding for visit and ties to home country	None	None
F-1 STUDENT POST-DOC	Obtained by student through University	Employment permitted for research work on campus; part-time on campus employment permitted as full-time student	Non-resident alien for five years	Must have EAC (Employment Authorization Card to be Employed)	As long as academic progress continues	Option of changing status to H-1 later	Cannot do any teaching; spouse (F-2) cannot work	Evidence of post-doctoral position and financial support; affidavit of support may be required	I-20 & I-538(if transfer of schools) issued by school	None
H-1 TEMPORARY WORKER	5 Months	Employment permitted only with university/ Company that petitioned for H-1; two employers require two H-1's	Non-resident alien if present in U.S. for most of year	Possession of professional degree and skills; indication that position to be filled requires professional skills and is temporary	Initial three year limit; up to an additional three years with extension	No two year home country residence requirement; good option for those completing third year	May require up to 5 months to be approved; considerable documentation required, spouse (H-2)can only work on individual H-1	Certified copy of highest degree certificate; support letter from employer	I-129 & I-539 for dependents	1) \$130.00 2) \$140.00
J-1 EXCHANGE VISITOR	2 – 4 Months	Salary as employee; per diem and lodging as consultant or visitor; reimbursement for visa fees	Non-resident alien for two years; may receive tax exemption through tax treaty	University appointment to teach or conduct research	Three year limit of stay	Relatively easy to obtain; spouse (J-2) eligible to apply to INS for work permit	Subject to two year home residence req if funded by U.S. or home govt. or if on country skill list must be carefully reviewed	DS-2019 from visa sponsor with details of financial support	DS-2019	None
PR IMMIGRANT PERMANENT RESIDENT	24 – 36 Months	No restrictions	Resident alien	Requires labor certification; or marriage to U.S. citizen, or permanent resident, or be eligible for refugee or asylum status, or qualify as outstanding researcher	Indefinite; citizenship optional after five years; three years if married to U.S. citizen	No need for work permits, extensions of stay	Extensive time documentation needed; not everyone is eligible. Cannot be absent for more than one year without INS permission	Labor certification; documentation of international reputation; or proof of relationship, asylum or refugee eligibility.	1) ETA-750 A&B 2) I-140 3) I-485 Packet 4) I-130 5) I-589	1) None 2) \$135.00 3) \$255.00 \$160.00 (if less than 14 years of age) 4) \$130.00 5) None

*TIME NEEDED FROM DATE OF DEPARTMENT REQUEST TO DATE OF ENTRY TO U.S.